

Justin Shilling, Hana St. Juliana, Madisyn Baldwin, and Tate Myer, our hearts are broken for the families in Michigan.

For the 17 dead and 21 wounded at a high school in Columbine 22 years ago; for the 32 dead and 17 wounded at Virginia Tech 14 years ago; for the 27 dead and two wounded at an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut, 3,275 days ago—9 years ago—for the 17 dead and 17 wounded at a high school in Parkland 3 years ago; and for the four dead and seven wounded at a high school in Oxford, Michigan, 2 days ago, Mr. Speaker, we know what can be done to help save lives.

We know red flags laws are bipartisan and can save lives. We know that if we invest in mental health we can save lives. We know that background checks save lives. These are not partisan, and these are not controversial.

How many more scenes like the one in Michigan do we need to see before this Congress, the Senate, this House, and the White House get together to stop the violence?

Mr. Speaker, it is urgent. The time to act is not now, it was years ago. We must come together and help save lives.

RECOGNIZING STUARTS DRAFT CHEER

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Stuarts Draft High School cheerleading squad.

After COVID-19 shrank the number of teams that could make it to State tournament last spring, the Cougars fell just 2 points shy of qualifying for the 2020 competition.

Coming off of this defeat and facing the loss of nine seniors, the team was determined to redeem themselves in the 2021 season. After much hard work and determination, their efforts paid off, winning this year's Class 2 State championship.

The Cougars dominated the competition earning a score of 257.5 points with their closest competition trailing by 35 points. With this victory in the books, Stuarts Draft Cheer has now claimed the State title in 4 of the past 5 years—highlighting just how talented this team is.

Following the win, cocaptain Kay-Lee Freeman said:

To not even make it last year then come back to win, I just feel so redeemed. People said there was no way we were ever going to rebuild, but look at us now.

Congratulations again to the Stuarts Draft Cougars on this accomplishment. It is well-deserved.

LET'S FIGHT INFLATION

(Mr. AUCHINCLOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I urge Republicans to join Democrats in fighting inflation.

First, let's acknowledge that pandemic-related disruptions to the global supply chain and to consumer demand have driven up the price of goods. We solve this by vaccinating more people here and around the world, restoring confidence to high-contact service industries, and ending this pandemic for good.

Second, let's help businesses hire. A shrunken workforce exacerbates inflation by constraining supply. There are 27 million hidden workers: Parents who took time off, neurodiverse individuals, the formerly incarcerated, and people without a college degree.

Passing the Build Back Better Act will unlock registered apprenticeships, industry-aligned career pathways, and other proven job training programs.

Republicans may have good ideas, too, like reducing occupational licensing requirements. They should come join the debate in good faith instead of scoring political points off of inflation.

Finally, let's hold the Fed accountable to its target of 2 percent inflation. Both parties in Congress should hold the Fed to account to reduce asset purchases and reestablish its credibility on price stability.

Let's build on the bipartisan infrastructure deal to offer bipartisan inflation solutions.

HONORING HAWKEYE DISTINGUISHED VETERANS

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor several men and women for dedicating their lives to the service of this country and to Iowa.

Recently, three University of Iowa alumni, a staff member and a graduate student, received the 2021 Hawkeye Distinguished Veterans Award for their honorable service to this great Nation and their continued service to the University of Iowa and the Iowa City community.

The recipients of this prestigious award are Chaplain George M. Campbell, Jr.; Colonel Kenneth E. Madden; Staff Sergeant Maria Guadalupe Bruno; General Charles A. Horner; and Staff Sergeant Jake L. Schillo.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for these wonderful men and women and for their service to the United States and to Iowa.

RECKLESS POLICIES DRIVING INFLATION

(Mr. BARR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, on the heels of the most expensive Thanksgiving in decades, the American people are head-

ing into the holiday shopping season that is going to be the most expensive in American history. That is because everywhere Americans open their wallets or swipe their credit cards, they are paying more because of President Biden's reckless tax, borrow, and spend policies.

Gas prices are up 61 percent from last year.

Think about it, Mr. Speaker, in 1 year's time we went from energy dominance to total dependence on foreign sources of energy. Electricity prices are up nearly 25 percent, and with winter in full swing, the cost of natural gas is soaring. Nearly half the homes in United States use natural gas for heat, and families could pay an average of \$746 more this winter, 30 percent more than a year ago.

In October, the CPI rose 6.2 percent, the highest it has been in over 30 years. Core inflation—minus food and energy costs—is at 4.3 percent, well above the Fed's 2 percent target.

Mr. Speaker, the Fed is not meeting its price stability mandate, and now Democrats want to double down on their failed policies of overspending, discouraging work, and constraining the supply of energy.

The Build Back Better bill is not going to remedy inflation; it is going to make it much, much worse. It is time for this administration and the majority in this Congress to reverse course and stop jeopardizing the future prosperity of the American people.

HONORING MARINE CORPORAL JOHN "BULLIT" KILLIAN

(Mr. NORMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the service of Marine Corporal John "Bullit" Killian of Chester, South Carolina.

John is no stranger to service and sacrifice. In fact, military service runs in the Killian family. John's father was a marine in World War II in the Pacific Theater.

A true American hero, John bravely served our country throughout the Vietnam war. John's military career began in 1965 after he and several of his classmates were selected for the draft.

John went through basic training at Parris Island, which he credits for sufficiently preparing him to survive Vietnam. His first duty station was Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) in Cherry Point, North Carolina, where he trained as an electrician and attended an air conditioning and refrigeration school.

After completing his schooling, John shipped out to Vietnam. He was based at Camp Evans, which he and his fellow marines called Disneyland because they got to live in hooches instead of tents.

Affectionately known as Cackalack, John was discharged after 1 year, 11

months, and 22 days in the Marine Corps. He left Vietnam the day the Tet Offensive started. His time in the Marine Corps dramatically affected his life. John said in some ways his service made him harder, but in other ways softer.

On behalf of the Fifth District of South Carolina, I want to thank Marine Corporal John Killian for his outstanding service. He has created a lasting legacy of duty, honor, and courage, and our Nation is better off for his sacrifice. May God continue to bless John and his great family.

WE MUST RESTORE AMERICAN COMPETITIVENESS

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I refuse to stand by and watch as America's ability to ensure the safe and efficient movement of goods, people, and services throughout our transportation network continues to be diluted. Our priority focus right now should be strengthening our Nation's economy and increasing our global competitiveness.

The policies of this President and Democratic Party leaders in Congress are exacerbating or simply ignoring the underlying supply chain crisis. These policies include the mishandling of the COVID response in ways that are prolonging unemployment and worker shortages across the economy and pushing for a multitrillion-dollar spending spree that is driving up prices of everything from gas to groceries.

Mr. Speaker, these efforts only serve to weaken American competitiveness and shrink our economy.

HONORING THE REMARKABLE CAREER OF DR. KAREN A. BOWYER

(Mr. KUSTOFF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUSTOFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true education leader, Dyersburg State Community College President Dr. Karen A. Bowyer.

Dr. Karen Bowyer has served as president of Dyersburg State Community College, located in my congressional district, for 37 years, and was the first female president to lead the institution. In fact, at that time there were no female college presidents in the entire State of Tennessee.

Indeed, Dr. Bowyer broke barriers, and she opened doors for students and their families across west Tennessee to achieve a higher education. Under Karen Bowyer, enrollment at Dyersburg State grew by more than 100 percent during her tenure.

The impact that Karen Bowyer has had on our community in west Tennessee is absolutely immeasurable. We thank Karen Bowyer for her service,

and Roberta and I wish her the best in her well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 80th anniversary of National Bible Week. In 1941, weeks before the United States entered World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared the week of Thanksgiving as National Bible Week.

This celebration recognizes the spiritual and historical significance of the Bible. It is a week where we can come together and celebrate this holy book. The Bible has shaped our Nation's history and continues to provide guidance to the lives of so many.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to live in a country where we can freely read the Scripture and worship the Lord without fear of persecution. The Bible is timeless and continues to provide us with words of wisdom, comfort, and guidance as we navigate unprecedented times.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to leave you with this verse from 2 Timothy 3:16. It is one that I keep close to my heart.

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

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HONORING THE LIVES OF DARIN JOHNS AND MARC BOSWELL

(Mr. PFLUGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my deepest condolences and prayers to the families of Darin Johns and Marc Boswell, who were tragically killed in a bus crash while traveling with the Andrews High School band.

Darin Johns, the beloved band director, was an active member of the Andrews community who dedicated his life to his faith and his beloved wife, Karen, and their family and friends, and who invested in younger generations as a band director for over 30 years.

He lent all of his time and energy to building up the dreams and talents of those around him.

I also want to recognize Marc Boswell, a humble and beloved Andrews public servant. Marc devoted his life to Andrews as a high school math teacher, was an employee of the Andrews school district, and was involved in the community as a leader and as a friend.

He was known for his servant heart, his incredible work ethic, his infec-

tious smile, and his deep love for his wife, Carol, and their children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Camille and I are sending our support and our prayers, not only to the families of those who were tragically killed, but also to the entire community and Andrews High School.

EXEMPT CRITICAL WORKERS FROM VACCINE REQUIREMENTS

(Mr. NEWHOUSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, our country is in a time of crisis. President Biden's policies have broken our supply chain; caused nationwide shortages and delays; and now, President Biden is holding the workers who keep our country running hostage through his vaccine mandates, further threatening our economic stability.

Federal employees throughout central Washington who operate and protect critical facilities are facing termination over what should be a personal medical decision. They don't deserve to be fired.

That is why I introduced the Exemptions for Critical Workers Act, to ensure these critical workers, who kept our industries functioning long before a vaccine was available to them, can make the health decision that is right for them while continuing their important work.

Just this week, three Federal courts halted the administration's mandate in certain parts of the country for healthcare workers and Federal contractors. Clearly, these mandates are unconstitutional.

I stand with the men and women who were asked to stand on the front lines for our sake, and I urge my colleagues to support my legislation.

ABORTION NOT A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, our U.S. Supreme Court Justices held oral arguments in the Dobbs v. Jackson case, which addressed the constitutionality of Mississippi's law banning abortions after 15 weeks.

It is time to get rid of the rules that prevent our legislators from enacting the will of the people and passing laws to protect the unborn, Mr. Speaker.

Chief Justice John Roberts once argued that the right to abortion has "no support in the text, structure, or history of the Constitution." I pray he and the eight other Justices uphold that view in Dobbs v. Jackson. They know the ability to murder unborn children is not one of our fundamental rights.

The Biden administration suspended basic healthcare regulations so doctors